

Mattapan Economic Development Initiative (MEDI)

The project's budget is up to and not exceeding \$250,000.

The purpose of the Mattapan Economic Development Initiative is to provide analysis of existing economic conditions and create an action agenda and strategy to guide Mattapan's economic development process. The action agenda should focus on fostering wealth creation, capital investment, and workforce development and should succeed in enhancing the overall quality of life of Mattapan residents as well as creating a vibrant and diverse street life in Mattapan's commercial centers and corridors.

The creation of the Economic development action agenda will rely on a variety of expertise including: extensive experience in economic development, facilitating community participation, retail/small business development, urban design, market analysis, transportation planning as well as programming and planning for non-profit and direct service institutions.

The Mattapan Economic Development Initiative (MEDI) is focused on four key areas that are inter-related and of equal importance:

- Business Development
- Job Creation
- Capital Investment
- Community Equity

Mattapan is a neighborhood located in southeast Boston. While originally a part of Dorchester, today, Mattapan is loosely defined by Morton Street to the north, Maryknoll Street to the east, to the west by Harvard Street and Cummings highway. For the purposes of the initiative there are four areas of significant impact, these include: Mattapan Square, the intersection of Blue Hill Avenue and Morton Streets, the Morton Street commuter rail station and the convergence of Blue Hill Ave and Mildred Avenue. These areas of significant impact have been specifically chosen for their concentration of commercial, residential and transportation development.

The Boston Redevelopment Authority will be the lead agency; and with assistance from other city agencies will coordinate the economic planning process and direct consultants to undertake this scope of work adhering to the values and desires of the Mattapan community. The action agenda will serve as a guide for future economic development projects in Mattapan.

A Community Advisory Group ("CAG") appointed by Mayor Thomas M. Menino will assist the BRA and City agencies in guiding the selected Consultant Team. Membership of the MEDI CAG will include individuals from the broad spectrum of neighborhood groups, citywide or regional representatives, and agency representatives. Meetings of the CAG will be convened by the BRA and the City; and will be open to the public. While staff at the BRA, City Agencies, and the members of the CAG will help shape the community participation process, it is critical that the Consultant Team have knowledge of and a commitment to this neighborhood and community process.